



Kensington Presbyterian Church
Growing in faith and sharing God's love
 since 1786

Sing a psalm
 June 11, 2023

WELCOME, to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship in person (with singing), as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF.¹ If this is how you are worshipping, know that you are not alone... and if you like, you can invite those who live with you to join you, or connect with others through the phone or outside.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca)

Announcements

Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site

Induction: Sunday, June 11 @ 4 pm

Rev. Bien Chung will be inducted as the minister of Taiwanese Robert Campbell Presbyterian Church. 2225 Regent Ave
 Everyone is welcome.

Zoom Prayer Group: Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

You may use the worship login details
[us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)
[pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

or phone: 438-809-7799

Meeting ID: 773 730 107

Password: 7864826

Jesus & Java: Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith.

Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



Pizza & Movie Nights: Fridays at 6:30

June 9: Mama Mia!

June 16: Robin Hood (Disney)

Please let Rev. Peter know if you plan to come.

Choir: would like you to join them. We practice Sunday at 9:30.

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry and diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands.

East Africa Hunger Crisis: until June 30 donations doubled by the Canadian government. Donations can be made through Presbyterian World Service & Development:
presbyterian.ca/pwsd/donate-east-africa-hunger

Meet the Candidates: June 12 7-9 pm

Hosted by the NDG Community Council
 at 5964 avenue Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (Wesley United Church)

New Hope Fundraising Walk: June 17

9:45 warm up, 10:00 walk, 11:30 BBQ

Donations can be made on site, or website: newhopendg.com
 (They are also looking for volunteers to help.)

Contacts

Church Office: 514-486-4559info@Kensingtonchurch.ca
 Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca
 514-773-4620
 Antoinette (families).....Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca
 Zoé Dupont-Foisy (music director).....zoedupontfoisy@hotmail.com



Approaching God



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship (Psalm 92: 1-2)

Sing to the LORD a new song;

sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, praise his name;

proclaim his salvation day after day.

♪ Hymn: Come Thou Almighty King.....pg 12 (293)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zD3mRziWo

www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkubvtpBflc



Prayer of Approach

Dear God,

How can we put you into words?

Your Spirit helps us see you behind the wonders of the world:

the complexities of the flowers,

and the complexities of people.

Giving us hints of your awesomeness

creativity

and power.

As we take the time to reflect on you and the way you try to
nurture relationships, we realize that we don't do so well.

There are times when we should stay silent,
and words shoot out of our mouths.

There are times when we should speak,
but the words get tied up in our bellies.

There are times when we depend on ourselves,
rather than putting our faith in you.

Times when we hold onto things we think we need,
hurting relationships with others and the environment.

If only we were wise enough to know,

...wise enough to spend enough time with you
to hear your Spirit speak in us.

Thankfully, your love for us will never fail,
and you will always try to help us.

And so we celebrate you

and reach out

to try and be more like you.

In reaching for you

we sing together the prayer

you teach your followers...



The Lord's Prayer (please use a version you are comfortable with)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

Amen.

☀ Assurance of Pardon

Hear these comforting words:

To all who turn from sin in sorrow,
to all who turn to God in hope,
this is God's Word of grace:

We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved.

This gift we have from God.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.²



Listening to God

🗨 Children's time

- Whoever wants a cookie, come line up.
- Who should get it first? (the first person?)
...how about the last person? Does that make sense? Does that seem fair?
- What if the last person isn't able to get in line? They'd never get a cookie. Is that fair?
- Jesus talked about how in God's way, the first will be last and the last will be first. One thing that means is that people who will be last, maybe because they are hurt, will be given a chance... and those who usually get everything will have to wait... or help.
- share cookie(s)

Dear Jesus

*Thank you for always wanting to help us,
and help us to help others.*

Amen.

² adapted from Worship Sourcebook 2.4.39



A Mighty Fortress - Beth Stone

♪ Hymn: A Mighty Fortress.....pg 9 (315)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=PB5XvHq8UHK



Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds
through the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we may engage with what you are saying to us today.

Amen.³

³ adapted from Worship Sourcebook 3.1.10 & 23

✦ Intro to the readings

- What would it take to get you to move to another country? Think about that as you hear about Abram
 - Abram = Abraham
 - Sarai = Sarah
 - Lot is Abram's nephew
- A few words before our psalm
 - fear: this isn't quite like frightened but more along the lines of standing on a cliff with a really amazing view - and having a healthy respect for the power of gravity. Everything is good, but if you step out of line you can't fight the power.
 - Righteousness: living God's way - right with God.
 - Justice: can mean legal rights, but often means living in a right relationship with God and others



Abraham and Sarah as new parents



Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,⁴ or click on the name to be taken to an online version.

[Genesis 12: 1-9](#)

[Psalm 33](#)



Sermon: Sing a psalm

*Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.*

My first career type job was teaching intermediate grades at a Christian school in Toronto's China-Town. We'd start the day with a prayer and current events. One day I told them about an event in which a teen from our neighbourhood was frustrated with all the restrictions about living at home - something they could all relate too. Apparently he'd told his father how fed up he was, which was shocking. More than that, the son had told the father he wished the father was dead so he could finally do what he wanted. His father said "okay", and surprisingly gave him money. It was when the son was on his way to the casinos in Niagra that one of the students called out, "Hey, I know this story. It's from the Bible." He was right; I'd just shifted the context and let them believe it was a 'current event'. Together we figured out modern details to continue the story of the Prodigal Son.

This is a good exercise to do - figuring out how you would tell a Biblical story. And it doesn't need to be a parable. You can retell any part of the Bible. You 'just' need to read it through slowly. Figure out what's going on - not just the events, but also the issues behind them. For example, in the story of the Prodigal Son - asking for his share of the inheritance isn't just asking for

⁴ If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963
or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

some money, it's saying he wishes the father was dead. In a society based on family honour... this was unbelievably shocking.



Prodigal Son - Fr Sieger Koder

Let's go on a similar journey with Psalm 33. I'm going to use words, being a sermon, but you could use painting, or dancing, or music, or a meal - however your imagination works.

The psalm starts with rejoicing. Joy is nice, but why show it? If I were writing it I'd explore the why first... so we'll come back to joy later.

Next, the psalm explores why we should rejoice. What would you say? Why are you glad God's around? How do you experience God?

In talking with you all on various occasions, I can guess some of the answers. You've told me about how God is there when you need support, or when you are lonely. Related to this is the comfort of knowing you are loved - always and anyways. Another common theme is just how amazing God is. Some examples you give include: creation (flowers, starry nights, gravity, people, strawberry ice cream, ...). So, God the creator, but also wonderful is God the Son - the life (and death, and return) of Jesus. And then there's God the Spirit - those times you feel God's presence/influence... which is amazing. Some of you talk about how it's a comfort knowing a good way to live - and that these values/rules & examples do help make your relationships better... even if they can be challenging to live all the time.

What would you include if you were rewriting this psalm? ...

Psalm 33 sings that the LORD is faithful. We are reminded of God's awesome power in creation - and that creation is full of love - "the steadfast love of the LORD." As part of describing God, and celebrating God, the psalm reminds us of God's love for righteousness - for people to live in healthy relationships for all. God has values that help us to collectively become the most beautiful we can be - and loves it when we live this way.

The psalmist then reflects on what this means for us. The word 'fear' is used... which is less frightened and more of a healthy respect for something much more powerful than you. This power is more than being able to control the elements, or create life... it is also supreme wisdom - a wisdom that is so much better than ours.

...which is easy to say and hard to live.

Take the example of Abram. He's well on in years, when God invites him to leave his home & family, and move to an unknown destination. Is there anything about that that sounds wise?

Another example... this week I was asked about what Jesus meant by "*the first shall be last, and the last first.*" How does that make any sense? How is this wisdom? Well, it depends on your goals. Is it about having security in your life, or about helping people who need it to have a share? Jesus goes out of his way to help the sick - those who would normally be last. He even takes on a role that would be below that of a servant, washing people's feet, to show how the Son of God went from first to last. How would you show God's wisdom in your psalm?

Psalm 33 shows the opposite - people trying to create their own security/safety. The psalm gives some examples that are still around - armies and tools adapted for war. The psalmist mentions the horse, but we might mention airplanes or explosives. A warrior's strength is another example. Today people still strive for physical strength to show control. Another way is to put their faith in finances. In the end, when someone lives by their own wisdom they will lose - and damage everyone in the process.

We can all think of people who make their own choices that end up hurting themselves or others. If you were rewriting this psalm, would you include one of them? or would you include a more personal challenge - because there are times when we are tempted to work for ourselves rather than turn to God.

Because our society focuses on individuals, it's important to include that, but also remember that psalm 33 talks of nations. We still live as a community. Together we make wise, and unwise, choices. Do we take responsibility for that?

There is hope, which is how the psalm ends. When we all look to God for the wisdom of how to live together, then we survive together - and experience God's steadfast love.

How would you include hope? Perhaps as a story?

Rose will tell us more about General Assembly, the national meeting of the Presbytery Church in Canada, but I'm going to share a story I saw. They took time away from the reports to encourage people to share about where they see growth happening. One example was of a church in Burnaby.⁵ When talking to the local school, they found out that the children who depended on the breakfast and lunch program had no support during the summer. The congregation was moved to find community partners and start a food program to support those families. Where do you see hope? What could you share?



Would you end with hope? It's a good place. With hope we can imagine a better future. It gives us energy. It helps us live in a way that embraces the solid love of God.

⁵ video youtu.be/9w4BBqnv0_Q?t=1078
the church www.trinitypc.ca/about-3

That's all great, but with this hope I feel joy rushing to the surface. My senses become more aware. I want to express it by making music - ideally with others.

How do you experience joy? What's it feel like? How do you show it? How do you celebrate what brings you joy? ...If you were writing the psalm, how would you express your joy in God?

Perhaps this week you can take up the challenge in verse 3. "Sing to the Lord a new song." Would you include everything Psalm 33 does? What is great about God; how we fail to follow God's ways; where we see hope; and the invitation to rejoice in the Lord. How would you express yourself - and our God?

To God be all the glory
Amen.



Responding to God

🎵 Hymn: This is a story full of love.....pg 10 (504)

💬 FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Values: What is it you appreciate about God?

Etching: How have you experienced joy?

Etching: How have you experienced hope?

Memories: What is an issue with the world, and how does that relate to our relationship with God?

Actions: Create your own version of Psalm 33 in writing, song, paint, dance, math, meals, ...

Prayer: ...pray your version of psalm 33

✦ Spirit Sightings

Rose will be sharing her experience at General Assembly this past week. You may watch it on YouTube.

www.youtube.com/channel/UC_EPsf2FuWoeen7j1iGcz_w



✦ Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our **website**. Just click the 'Donate Now' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can now donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (**PAR**) are also good options.

🙏 Prayers of the people

Dear Lord,

While psalm 33 places you in Heaven,
we know that you are also here with us;
speaking to us,
and listening to us.

In this moment,
we recognize that you know us better than we know ourselves,

and that your wisdom is the way for us all to be filled with your love and peace.

We pray that our leaders will listen to your Spirit of Wisdom.
For the Federal, Provincial, city & corporate boards...
We also that the election in NDG allows issues that are dear to you to be raised and ideas shared...
We pray for those who are struggling with housing, food, education & health care. May our society come together to help those who might be considered last...
We also pray that we will all come together and live in a healthy relationship with the environment. We pray for those who depend on the forests, and for those who have lost their homes to the fires...

We pray that your Spirit of Wisdom will also guide your church.
Help your church to have faith in you, and to live that out.
We thank you for the meeting of General Assembly, for the work of our church in Canada & around the world, and pray for that in the coming year more seeds of hope will bloom...
We pray for our neighbouring congregation of Taiwanese Robert-Campbell as they start a new song with the Rev. Bien Chung...
And we pray for Kensington...
May you help us to grown in faith, and to share your love, hope & healing with all those in need.

Lord, you are more than wisdom,
you are also a God of practicalities - though in ways that sometimes seem impossible to us.
We pray that you will bring healing in our midst to those in need of healing: physical or mental...

We pray that you will help us
to spend time listening for your wisdom;
that you will help us to sing a new song
that celebrates your glory.

In Jesus name
Amen.

♪ Hymn: Lord, whose love.....pg 11 (722)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=So9Va9L8N8E

✦ Benediction
*May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you
Amen.*



A mighty fortress is our God

Ein' feste Burg 878766667

C /E F G Am D G Am Em F G Am/C

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a ref - uge nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with e - vil filled, should threat - en to un -
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers—no thanks to them!—a -

C /E F Dm6 C Em Am 6 G/B Am/C D G F

seeks to work us woe with craft and pow - er great and,
 Je - sus, liv - ing, true. Lord Sab - ba - oth by name, from
 God will sure - ly quell: their rage we can en - dure, for
 goods, all earth - ly love. Earth's pow - ers waste a - way; God's

Dm G7 C /E F G Am D G Am Em F

fail - ing, our help - er sure a - mid the flood of mor - tal
 los - ing, were not a Sav - iour on our side, the One of
 do us, we will not fear, for God has willed the truth to
 bid - ing, en - sures that all God's gifts are ours, through Christ in

F C A/C# Dm A Am Em F C Am Dm G7 C

armed with cru - el hate, on earth has not an e - qual.
 age to age the same, al - read - y wins the bat - tle.
 look! their doom is sure: one lit - tle word will fell them.
 word en - dures al - way, whose reign will last for - ev - er.

G Am Dm G7 C Em D G/B D G C/E

ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe yet
 God's own choos - ing. Who is this Sav - iour, who? Christ
 tri - umph through us: the powers of death and hell our
 us re - sid - ing, whose sum - mons rings a - bove all

Words: Psalm 46; paraphrase, Martin Luther (1483–1546), translation, Frederick H. Hedge (1805–1890), alt
 Music: Martin Luther (1483–1546); arrangement Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612)

Words: this version, copyright © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1997 Music: public domain

This is a story full of love

F Bb F/C Dm C6 Bb6 F/A Bb F

1. This is a story full of love, a
 2. For Wis - dom guides the flow of life and
 3. And faith, a - wak - ened, hears the word that
 4. The Wis - dom and the Word are one when

Bb/D F C 7 Dm Csus/F /E F

song to set us free, of
 gov - erns, hour by hour, the
 A - bra - ham must move, and
 flesh and bone and breath re -

Bb C/E F C/E Dm C F C

God, the Wis - dom and the Word, the
 forc - es of the u - ni - verse, the
 slaves of Phar - aoh take the road to
 veal the hu - man face of God, the

Gm /Bb Bb/D C F C F/C

key - stone and the key, the
 fra - grance of a flower, the
 free - dom, law and love, the
 child of Naz - a - reth, to the

Gm /Bb F C F

key - stone and the key.
 fra - grance of a flower.
 free - dom law and love.
 child of Naz - a - reth.

- 5. Arising over earthly powers,
 our Saviour has begun
 to catch them in a web of love
 and weave them into one,
 and weave them into one.
- 6. Praise God, the Wisdom and the Word,
 till all the world can see
 that Jesus is the first and last,
 the keystone and the key,
 the keystone and the key.

Words: Brian A. Wren (1936-) Music: William P. Rowan (1951-) CCLI #4440603
 Words: copyright © 1986 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: copyright © 1986 by Hope Publishing Co.

Lord, whose love

BEACH SPRING 8787D

F Gm/F F /E Dmsus4-3 Bb C/Bb

1. Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of
 2. Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry
 3. As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-
 4. Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear

Bb 6 F Gm/F F F /E Dmsus4-3

hu-man need, who up-on the cross, for-sak-en,
 cry for bread; still the cap-tives long for free-dom;
 veal-ing light in its height and depth and great-ness
 name we go to the child, the youth, the a-ged,

/C Bb C/Bb Bb 6 F C/E (Dm7)C (sus2-1)

of-fered mer-cy's per-fect deed: we, your serv-ants, bring the
 still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com-
 dawns up-on our quick-ened sight, mak-ing known the needs and
 love in liv-ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and

Dm Am F/A Bb (maj7) C(sus2-1) Dm

wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart, con-se-crat-ing
 pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your
 bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, stir-ring us to
 com-fort, coun-sel, aid and peace we give, that your serv-ants,

/C Bb6 (maj7) F/A Gm7 F/A Bb F

to your pur-pose eve-ry gift that you im-part.
 Spir-it kin-dles still to save and make us whole.
 tire-less striv-ing your a-bun-dant life to share.
 Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know, and live.

Words: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984) Music: attributed to Benjamin Franklin White (1800-1879)
 from Sacred Harp 1844; harmony, Ronald A. Nelson (1927-) CCLI #4440603

Words: copyright © Oxford University Press, 1961 Music: harmony, copyright © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

1. Oh wor-ship the King, all glor-ious a - bove; oh grate - ful - ly
 2. Oh tell of God's might, oh sing of God's grace, whose robe is the
 3. The earth, with its store of won-ders un - told, Al - migh - ty, thy
 4. Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the
 5. O meas-ure-less Might, un-change-a - ble Love, while an - gels de -

-sing God's power and God's love, our Shield and De - fend - er, the
 light, whose can - o - py space; whose char-iots of wrath the deep
 power hath found-ed of old, hath stab-lished it fast by a
 air; it shines in the light; thy mer-cies, how ten-der, how
 light to hymn thee a - bove, thy ran-somed cre - a - tion, in

An - cient of Days, pa - vil-ioned in splen-dour and gird-ed with praise.
 thun - der-clouds form, and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 change-less de - cree, and round it hath cast, like a man-tle, the sea.
 firm to the end, our Ma-ker, De - fend - er, Re-deem-er and Friend.
 glo - ry a - blaze, in true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to thy praise.

Words: Psalm 104; paraphrase, Robert Grant (1779–1838), alt Music: William Croft (1678–1727);
 descant, Alan Gray (1855–1935) *Words: public domain Music: descant, copyright © Cambridge University Press CCLI #4440603*

Prema and her five children live in the Umerkot district of Pakistan. After her husband's death, Prema found it very difficult to provide for her family, and severe drought throughout the district only brought more hardship. Her eldest son tried hard to find work so that he could help support his mother and siblings, but despite his best efforts, his job prospects were limited due to a physical disability. **A glimmer of hope came when Prema and her family were selected for a food assistance project run by Presbyterian World Service & Development's local partner.** The food aid that Prema's family has received through the project has helped them to become more resilient to future adverse events.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, June 11 We pray for the homeless and underhoused and that their needs for shelter, food and medical assistance are met.

Monday, June 12 We pray for the Rev. Lara Scholey, who serves as the denominational representative to the Interfaith Committee on Canadian Military Chaplaincy.

Tuesday, June 13 We pray for those who are considering theological education at the Presbyterian colleges. May they have open hearts, clear callings and God's sustaining presence.

Wednesday, June 14 We pray for the people who gather and serve at the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry in Saskatchewan, and we give thanks for their ministry.

Thursday, June 15 We pray for leaders of PCC camps as they plan for another summer filled with exciting programs and activities.

Friday, June 16 We pray for Reserve Force Chaplains, who serve in the church as civilians and in the nation as chaplains.

Saturday, June 17 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Brampton in Ontario.